

(2) The encroachments on those canals and the *pozichal* near the Manakkodathu bar should be removed. The *pozichal* should always be protected from encroachments and no portion of it should be registered.

(3) Certain bunds put up by the people for their own selfish purposes should be removed.

(4) Those bunds should be replaced by sluices which should be so adjusted as to be of use for irrigation, the whole responsibility of regulating the water and working the sluices being entrusted to the D. P. W. The Cochin Government were doing a similar help in respect of lands lying within that State.

The Member also requested that bunds be put up at Penatichira and Pulluveli to prevent the entrance of salt water from the Cochin backwaters and sluices constructed, owing to ebb and flow of water. Four additional bunds with sluices should also be put up at Pallithodu or Changarathumuttu, Arasumuttu, Pandarathimuttu and Neeñdakarathodumuttu, to obstruct the flow of salt water from the sea through the Anthakarazhi bar.

A Board consisting of the Kottayam Dewan Peishkar, the Chief Engineer and the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries should be appointed to investigate the condition of *kari* lands and suggest such remedial measures as they might consider necessary.

A Model Farm for the cultivation of cocoanut palm should be opened and greater facilities afforded to improve trade. At present, people were vending their articles for about a mile on either side of the road from the landing place with great inconvenience and trouble. It would be a great boon if the lands on either side of the canal recently cut were disposed of in convenient blocks and converted into a market. The fish market also should be transferred from the present site to the new canal bank, as it was a source of annoyance to the people in various ways. Lastly, the Member requested that a cattle pound be established at Kuthiathodu for the benefit of the agriculturists.

Dewan's reply.—A sum of Rs. 1,190 has been sanctioned for putting up bunds at Pulluveli, Pandarathi, Arasuthodu, Penatichira and Changarathumuttu. All the suggestions will be carefully considered.

55. Agricultural needs of the Vaikom taluk.

Mr. K. N. Govinda Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Vaikom) submitted that, since the construction of the strong bund at the Valianapuzha river in 1064, the ryots of the taluk cultivating about one lakh of *paras* of paddy lands had often suffered failure of crops owing to the stagnation of water in their paddy lands. There was a canal to serve as an outlet for the water standing within the bunded portion but the *thodu* had become silted up and useless for the free flow of water. Recently, as a result of the complaints made by the people, some repairs were ordered to be carried out; but the works executed were not satisfactory and gave no relief to the people. The Member, therefore, requested that the bund be cut open and sluices constructed to regulate the flow of water. The Kaniyan *thodu* should also be deepened and made serviceable and the encroachments in parts of the *thodu* removed.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The Member should address the Dewan Peishkar in regard to the encroachments.

(2) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

56. Organisation of an Economic Conference.

Mr. M. Krishna Pillai (Member, Eraniel Taluk) described the present economic condition of the State due to the war and submitted that the existing system of education was also increasing the number of the unemployed. The only panacea for all the ills the country was suffering from was that Government should start technical

institutions. He also suggested the organization of an Economic Conference as in Mysore with Committees for Agriculture and Co-operation, Industry and Trade, and Education.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

57. Industrial Education.

Mr. K. Sankara Panikkar (Member, Nominated) in the course of his representation thanked the Government for having ordered the Industrial Survey and suggested that an Indian Assistant—official or non-official—be given to Dr. Barker, the Special Officer. The following proposals were then made :—

(1) A periodical must be published, like the Agricultural Journal, to keep the people informed of the industrial progress in all countries.

(2) A survey should be conducted by the Director of Agriculture to ascertain the quantity of paddy required for local consumption, the extent of land available for paddy cultivation, and the area at present under paddy cultivation, the object of such a survey being to make the State self-sufficient in the matter of paddy production.

(4) Each village should have an Industrial School of its own.

(5) Every taluk should have its own Industrial School, the Village and Taluk Industrial institutions being affiliated to the Central Technical Institute at the capital which would be founded as the *Shashyabdapurthi* Memorial.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

58. State aid to Industries and Commercial pursuits.

Mr. C. Raman Tampi B. A. & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Quilon) first spoke about the necessity to increase the budget of the Agricultural Department.

Though the State finances appeared to be sound and satisfactory, the country as a whole was not as prosperous as one would imagine. In considering the question as to what had been done to mitigate the sufferings of the people, the Member referred to the objects of the Industrial Department as explained in the Administration Report and was of opinion that much benefit had not accrued to the State from the operations of the department so far. The people were starving on account of economic distress and when such cottage industries as mat-making, weaving, coir-making and other industries like the manufacture of sugar, &c., could easily have been developed, the Special Officer, Industrial Survey, was devoting attention to scents and varnishes and perfumes and lace. In regard to dye-stuffs again, the Special Officer was only publishing what had been discovered already. The Member stated that the Government ought to pioneer industries and demonstrate to the people their possibilities till confidence had been established. Loans ought then to be advanced to those who came forward to take up such works. The functions of the Department would thereafter be (1) to carry on investigations with a view to find out new industries, (2) to give expert advice to those engaged in industries already started, and (3) to learn, from countries which had attained eminence in industrial concerns, improved methods and to devise appliances and machines and impart instruction to the people regarding the same. He regretted the action of Government in refusing help to the Sugar Factory at Ettumanur in the matter of the disposal of the bye-products. A similar discouraging feature was that Mr. Narasimha Iyer of Kottarakara was not given any financial aid for the manufacture of his excellent coconut-shell buttons, though high officers of Government were favourably impressed with his work. The Manager of the Weaving Factory at Mavelikara wanted some help which the Government did not give.

The Member then made the following suggestions :—

(1) An Economic Conference should be held every year at Trivandrum.

(2) There should be a Central Standing Committee to advise the Government on questions of industries and commerce.